

**REMARKS**


The claims have been amended to clarify the subject matter and remove multiple dependencies. The amendments and newly added claims do not add any new matter within the meaning of 35 U.S.C. §132.

Early action on the merits is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

**NATH & ASSOCIATES PLLC**

By: \_\_\_\_\_

  
Gary M. Nath  
Registration No. 26,965  
Marvin C. Berkowitz  
Registration No. 47,421  
Customer No. 20529

Date: February 23, 2004

**NATH & ASSOCIATES PLLC**

1030 15<sup>th</sup> Street, NW - 6<sup>th</sup> Floor

Washington, D.C. 20005

GMN/MCB/lis:26001:AMENDpreml